

Record

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JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Men's, boys' programs see surge in SBC

ALPHARETTA, Ga. (BP and local reports) — Although total church membership, Sunday School attendance, and the number of baptisms in the Southern Baptist Convention declined in 2008 from 2007, participation by men and boys in Baptist Men ministries and Royal Ambassadors jumped almost six percent in 2008.

According to data collected for the recent Annual Church Profile (ACP) by LifeWay Christian Resources of the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) in Nashville, the number of men and boys enrolled in Baptist Men and RA programs in SBC churches jumped to 403,575 in 2008, compared to 381,355 in 2007. The top 10 states in terms of the number of Baptist Men and RAs are:

- Georgia, 81,496.
- North Carolina, 52,993.
- Tennessee, 35,641.
- Alabama, 33,480.
- South Carolina, 29,630.
- Mississippi, 23,970.
- Florida, 19,395.
- Kentucky, 13,638.
- Virginia, 10,476.
- Louisiana, 10,318.

Georgia and Tennessee led the way in chalking up the biggest increases in Baptist Men and RA growth in 2008. Georgia men's ministries grew 21.2% last year, a one-year addition of 15,700 men and boys. Among Tennessee's 3,000 SBC churches, 297 showed a 50% or more increase in men's ministry for an overall 17% growth rate for the state convention.

"The emphasis on the Royal Ambassador Centennial last year may have contributed to this upswing," said Jim Burton, team leader for mission education at the North American Mission Board (NAMB) of the Southern Baptist Convention in Alpharetta, Ga. "We heard from many churches in 2008 that realized they needed to re-prioritize teaching boys about missions and developing men to be their leaders."

The 2008 ACP statistics represent two consecutive years of positive growth in the num-

ber of those participating in the Baptist Men and RA ministries in SBC churches — the longest period of sustained growth over the last decade, Burton said.

"We celebrate this evidence of churches prioritizing the development of men and boys in missions. Historically, we know the best indicator of children maintaining their family's faith tradition as adults is the example of their fathers. That's why we are focusing on the development of men who are passionate about missions, challenging them to live their faith in ways that are tangible and dynamic," Burton said.

For more than two million boys, first-grade through sixth-grade in age, Royal Ambassadors emphasizes that they are commissioned as Christ's ambassadors to go into the world and tell the story of Jesus Christ. The RA program, which celebrated its 100th anniversary as an organization in 2008, is one of the oldest Southern Baptist organizations.

After 1908, RA chapters multiplied quickly and by 1935 had grown to some 4,500 chapters in the U.S. In the past 10 years alone, a quarter-million young boys have learned to live out the RA pledge: "We are ambassadors for Christ," based on 2 Corinthians 5:20.

After a century, Royal Ambassadors is now an international organization with groups in 14 countries reaching the world with the Gospel.

Fairview Church in Columbus is one Southern Baptist church where RAs is a thriving part of the church's overall mission education program — thanks to a married couple, Keith and Gayle Fortenberry. Led by pastor and current Mississippi Baptist Convention president Mickey Dalrymple, Fairview Church runs some 1,200 in Sunday school each week.

Keith Fortenberry, who works for a Columbus cement company, and his wife Gayle, a local high school teacher, have co-directed Fairview Church's RA program for the past six years. Each Wednesday night, some 70-75 boys show up for RAs at the church.

"We think it's good to separate the boys from the girls," Gayle said. "It's a time for the boys to learn it's cool to be a Christian among your peers. They learn RA virtues like trustworthiness, friendship, and loyalty."

Using North American Mission Board materials such as the award-winning *Lad* and *Crusader* magazines, the



BIG ONE! — Luke Barrett (left), a member of the Royal Ambassadors (RA) chapters at Fairview Church in Columbus, shows off the bass he snagged during a recent RA campout. At right is Luke's fishing buddy and fellow RA, Neil Fortenberry. (BP photo courtesy of North American Mission Board)

Fortenberrys also re-instituted an awards program for the Fairview Church RAs including patches, pins, and vests.

Most of the boys can't wait to get their vests, said Gayle.

Fairview Church's RAs look forward to several major events each year. There are campouts in the spring and fall — a time for fishing, canoeing, and horseback riding. The boys' dads, granddads, or father-figures are always invited to attend.

The Fairview Church RAs also join RAs from all over Mississippi for the annual RA Day at a Mississippi Baptist College football game in Clinton. Mississippi College is affiliated with the Mississippi Baptist Convention. In between campouts and college football, there's the RA Racing Program.

"Our boys would not learn about missions if they didn't come to RAs," said Keith. "Some don't go to church on Sunday at all. In fact, RAs is the only time they come to church. We try to give them some fun, but we also give them a program on the Gospel, too."

He added that participating in their son's RA activities have also led some of the dads to attend Fairview Church's worship services on Sunday.

Editor's note: Curriculum and training to teach missions to boys is available online at www.royalambassadors.org. For information on how to develop or re-ignite an RA program, send an e-mail to royalambassadors@namb.net or call (770) 410-6494.

ED SINCE 1877

JUNE 18, 2009

VOL. 133

No. 24

Jimmy Draper released

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — James T. (Jimmy) Draper Jr. was released from the hospital June 11 and is continuing his recovery from strep bacterial meningitis.

Draper was hospitalized at Baylor Regional Medical Center in Grapevine, Texas, when he became unresponsive following a myelogram June 3 at an outpatient clinic in Fort Worth. After a preliminary diagnosis of an allergic chemical reaction, doctors determined that strep bacterial meningitis had entered his bloodstream during the procedure.

Draper was president of LifeWay Christian Resources of the Southern Baptist Convention from 1991-2006 and president of the Southern Baptist Convention from 1982-84. Prior to his service at LifeWay, Draper was the long-time pastor of the Fort Worth-area First Church in Euless.



OUTDOOR COOKOUT — Some 60 RAs and their dads enjoy a hotdog cookout at Keith and Gayle Fortenberry's farm near Columbus. The Fortenberrys co-direct the RA program at nearby Fairview Church. (BP photo courtesy of North American Mission Board)

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JUN 23 2009
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BAPTIST RECORD, P.O. Box 530,
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Send news, communication, and
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VOLUME 133 • NUMBER 24
(ISSN-0005-5778)

Published weekly except weeks of July 4
and Christmas by the Mississippi Baptist
Convention Board, 515 Mississippi Street,
Jackson, MS 39201. Subscription \$10.35 per
year payable in advance. Economy plans
available for cooperating Mississippi churches.
Periodicals postage paid at Jackson, MS.
Member, Association of State Baptist Papers.
Deadlines: News items — one calendar
week prior to requested publication date.
Advertising — two calendar weeks prior to
requested publication date. All submissions
are subject to editing.

Walking a dark path

The murder of physician and abortionist George Tiller inside his church in Wichita, Kn., on May 31, has been roundly and rightly condemned. The demented loner who thought he was doing all of us a favor by killing Tiller should be prosecuted under the rule of the law governing such acts.

As the secular news media seek to pin Tiller's murder on the pro-life community in general and on individuals who opposed this doctor's willingness to kill babies up to — and including — the moment of birth, let it be known that Southern Baptists have a 15-year record of opposing such vigilantism in the name of the pro-life cause. The Baptist Record agrees with that stand.

The 1994 Nashville Declaration of Conscience was the product of a conference called by the Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission (ERLC) of the Southern Baptist Convention in Nashville, after the murders of a number of abortion providers.

The Declaration unequivocally condemns the killing of abortionists like Tiller. "We reject the argument that killing an abortion

doctor is an act of violent civil disobedience made necessary by the gravity of the moral evil of abortion on demand. It is our conviction that no act of lethal force can be properly ascribed to the rubric of civil disobedience... The killing of abortion doctors is not a morally justifiable or permissible Christian response to abortion. We utterly reject such conduct as inconsistent with Scripture."

The Declaration, titled *The Struggle Against Abortion: Why the Use of Lethal Force is Not Morally Justifiable*, can be read at http://erlc.com/documents/pdf/statement_of_conscience.pdf.

After this latest violence, ERLC president Richard Land wrote, "It is incumbent



upon us to pray for Dr. Tiller's family and all those who were forced to witness the terrible act of violence in a house of worship. The perpetrator of this violence should be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law."

Virtually all of the country's credible pro-life organizations were just as quick to denounce the murder of Tiller, including National Right to Life Committee, Americans United for Life, Family Research Council, Focus on the Family, Concerned Women for America, Care Net, Susan B. Anthony List, U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, American Life League, Operation Rescue, Christian Defense Coalition, 40 Days for Life, Stand True, Priests for Life and Pro-life Action League.

R. Albert Mohler, president of Southern Seminary in Louisville, Ky., and one of the original drafters of the Nashville Declaration,

recently wrote on his blog, "Murder is murder. The law rightly affirms that the killing of Dr. George Tiller is murder. In this we must agree. We cannot rest until the law also recognizes the killing of the unborn as murder. The killing of Dr. George Tiller makes that challenge all the more difficult."

There is no doubt that Tiller's murder, in no less than a house of worship, was legally and morally unjustifiable. There is equally no doubt that we can and should express sympathy for his family.

Contrary to the pronouncements of the defenders of abortion and the national news media, however, Tiller was no saint. One of the early adopters of abortion after the 1973 U.S. Supreme Court decision that legalized abortion in the U.S., he became a millionaire by means of his willingness to kill, by his own estimate, at least 60,000 developing humans.

His clinic's web site boasted that women came from all over the world to avail themselves of his acumen in aborting full-term babies by any means necessary, including manual dismemberment and extraction, removal of the brain by suction device, and chemical poisoning injected directly through the mother's abdomen into the womb.

Tiller's clinic even offered a "memorial service" for aborted babies, complete with a chaplain to help parents deal with the death of their child at Tiller's hands. There was a high-tech oven on the clinic site, to cremate the mutilated remains of the victims of his art and prevent them from falling into the wrong hands.

George Tiller's professional life was soaked with the blood of the innocents, of which he seemed to be proud in the name of "women's health." This man, obviously blessed with tremendous medical skills, chose early on to walk a dark path, and his life ended there.


During all the accolades for this supposedly great man, let us not forget who he really was.

One church sign revealed, "Today's sermon: What is hell like?" Underneath the sermon title were the words, "Church business meeting tonight."

It is true that wherever there are two Baptists together you could have up to three opinions on any given subject. I have a few rules I would like to suggest that churches employ for their business meetings.

— First, non-tithers should not be allowed to speak or vote at church business meetings. If that rule seems unfair then the time allotted for members to speak should be in direct proportion to how much they give. For example, a person who gives two percent of their income to the church should be given the opportunity to speak for 20 seconds, the person who gives four percent should be allotted 40 seconds, the person who gives 10% for one minute and 40 seconds and the person who gives 20% should be allowed to speak for 3 minutes and 20 seconds, etc.

• Second, no one should be allowed to speak or vote at the church business meeting who is more conversant with the church constitution/by-laws and Robert's Rules of Order than the Bible. I have known deacons who



GUEST OPINION:

Rules for church business meetings

By Gerald Harris
Atlanta, Ga.

could quote Article III, Section 4, paragraph 6 of the church constitution, but couldn't find the Gospel of John in the Bible.

• Third, the only members who can speak or vote at church business meetings should have at least a 75% attendance record. In other words, if the church has Sunday morning, Sunday evening, and Wednesday evening worship services or Bible studies each week or 12 such meetings a month, a member should be in attendance for nine of those meetings in order to participate in a business meeting.

Having this rule will prohibit conniving members from importing scads of inactive members for crucial votes — like for the termination of a pastor.

• Fourth, a man who is silenced and controlled by his wife should not try to make up for his lack of authority at home by attempting to assert himself and control the church business meeting. Unfortunately, some men are as bold as a lion at a church conference and as meek as a lamb at home.

• Fifth, some church business meetings should be held in a wrestling arena or hockey rink, because there is nothing spiritual about them and they hardly qualify to be held in a "house of prayer." Half Nelsons and flying pucks are more likely to be seen in some church business meetings than grace and unity.

In case you think the preceding suggestions are mani-

festly unspiritual, I want you to know that I have written them facetiously or tongue-in-cheek — well, maybe somewhat facetiously. Others of you may be cheering the suggestions because if they were employed, your church business meetings would be significantly improved.

Here is the question: What kind of impression would an unsaved person get about your church if his only exposure to it were a business meeting? Furthermore, if the resurrected Christ were to visibly walk into your church business meeting would He feel at home in His Church?

May the Lord be exalted in your church's next business meeting and in the Southern Baptist Convention's business meeting in Louisville this month. Why? The media will show up as usual and the world will be watching and quite often the only impression the world gets of us is the impression they get of our business meeting.

Harris, a former Mississippi Baptist pastor, is editor of the *Christian Index*, the newsjournal of the Georgia Baptist Convention. His commentary appears courtesy of Baptist Press.

Christian bookstore owner sent to prison

BEIJING (BP and local reports) — Shi Weihai, the Chinese Christian bookstore owner who has been imprisoned for more than a year after being labeled by government authorities as a "dangerous religious element," was sentenced June 10 to three years in prison and a fine of nearly \$22,000 presumably for "illegal business practices."

Shi's friend Ray Sharpe, an Illinois businessman, told Baptist Press the sentence was described as running from Nov. 28, 2007, when Shi was first arrested, to Nov. 27, 2010. That would mean the time he already has spent in jail counts toward his sentence.

"It could have been much worse, but it is totally unfair and improper regardless," Sharpe said. "I'm somewhat relieved that they're not just holding him indefinitely, although they are still holding him. We won't know if they're actually going to release him in 2010 until he's released. That's just the nature of China."

After being arrested in 2007, Shi was released in January 2008 due to insufficient evidence on illegal business practice charges. He was arrested again two months later and held with virtually no communication with his family or attorney.

Also for most of his time in jail, Shi, age 38, was held without charges, contrary to Chinese law.

"The other issue that I just found out about today," Sharpe said June 11, "is that apparently the government has stripped his attorney of his license to practice law, and I don't know at what point that happened and whether his attorney was even present at the trial."

"I'm trying to find that out, but the attorney was stripped of his license because of his

involvement in human rights cases. They're attacking a lot of these human rights lawyers and stripping them of their licenses."

Despite charges of illegal business practices, Compass Direct News reported that Shi's store operated legally and sold only books for which he had obtained government permission. The literature printed by his Holy Spirit Trading Co., which included Bibles and other Christian materials, was not approved by the government but was given away rather than sold.

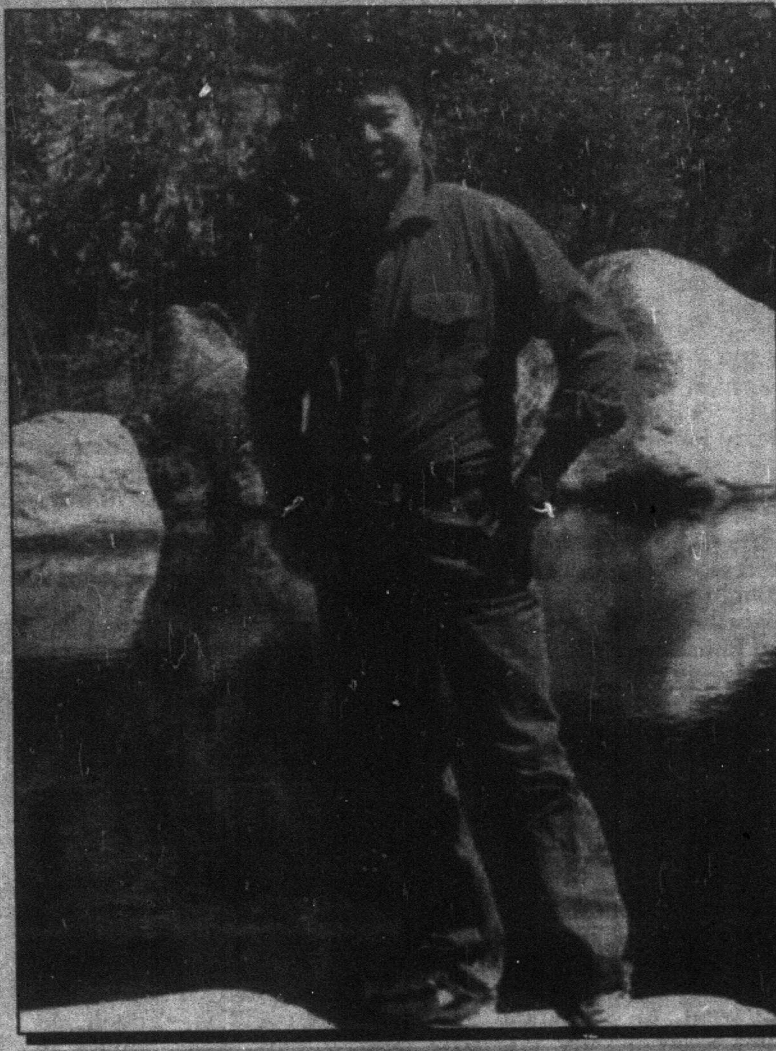
Sharpe said a judge dismissed illegal business practice charges twice previously, but the Public Security Bureau continued to hold Shi because they wanted to gather evidence for a case.

"The whole process has really been illegal," Sharpe told BP. "It has not followed Chinese law. The charges were dismissed previously because the judge said there was no illegal business practice and the only evidence that was brought was he had printed books that were deemed illegal, but he had given all those books away so there was no business. It was a charity operation."

Given that a sentencing finally was drummed up on the same previously dismissed charges, Sharpe said the ordeal seems driven by PSB pressure.

"They pressured him, got rid of the attorney, and convicted him of what he was previously acquitted of twice," Sharpe said, assuming Shi's attorney was not present at the trial. "It's extremely disappointing in that regard. If indeed they do release him, at least it's a relief that they didn't hold him for 25 years. You never know what happens with these situations."

Sharpe mentioned Gao Zhisheng, a prominent



Shi Weihai

Christian human rights attorney in China who has been missing for more than 100 days. "We don't even know if that fellow is still alive, so those kinds of things happen in China too," Sharpe said.

Shi suffers from diabetes, and earlier in his prison stay he was not being allowed to receive medication. Compass Direct reported that Shi has lost more than 40 pounds and has suffered health consequences from unsanitary conditions in prison.

"The written judgment is expected in 15 days, presumably to allow time for the filing of an appeal. An appeal process could take up to another year, while Shi would probably continue to be held," Sharpe said.

"Absent an appeal, it is also possible that Shi could

be allowed a sort of medical parole due to his diabetic condition," he added. "Hopefully, he could then be allowed to stay in a hospital under a sort of house arrest. Please pray that this will be possible, so that his health will not further deteriorate. We are not certain whether the family will opt to appeal or not, given the outcome."

Others who stood trial with Shi apparently received similar sentences. It is believed those individuals were employed by a printing company, Sharpe said.

"We trust that God will enable Shi and his family to emerge from this ordeal even stronger in their faith and in their resolve to build the Kingdom of God," Sharpe said.

Looking back

10 years ago

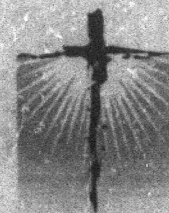
Centreville Church, Mississippi Association, collects over 25 tons of food to be sent to hurricane ravaged people in Honduras.

20 years ago

Native Mississippian Ernie Myers, executive director of the Nevada Baptist Convention, is elected second vice-president of the Southern Baptist Convention during the convention's annual session in Las Vegas. A native of Ruleville, Myers has served Nevada Baptists since 1978.

30 years ago

A group of Mississippi Baptist pastors and laymen retrace the steps of the Apostle Paul, with stops at Mars Hill, Athens, Corinth, Damascus, and other sites.



MISSISSIPPI
BAPTISTS

THE SECOND FRONT PAGE

PUBLISHED SINCE 1877

JUNE 18, 2009

VOL. 133

No. 24



YOU CAN RESPOND
RIGHT NOW!

Simply share the following prayer with God in your own words:

1. Lord, I admit that I need you. (I have sinned.)
2. I want forgiveness for my sins and freedom from eternal death. (I repent.)
3. I believe Jesus died and rose from the grave to forgive my sins and to restore my relationship with you. (I believe in Jesus.)
4. By faith, I invite Jesus Christ into my life. From this time on, I want to live in a loving relationship with Him. (I receive Christ as my Savior and Lord.)

"But as many as received him, to them he gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in his name." (John 1:12)

If you make a decision for Jesus Christ today, contact a local Baptist church for spiritual guidance.

Tiller clinic closes

WASHINGTON (BP) — The family of slain abortion doctor George Tiller has permanently shut down his Wichita, Kan., clinic, but a colleague said in the wake of the decision he will perform the procedures in the third trimester at another location in the state. A statement released by lawyers for the Tiller family said his widow, Jeanne Tiller, and their four children were closing Women's Health Care Services Inc. permanently. "Notice is being given today to all concerned that the Tiller family is ceasing operation of the clinic and any involvement by family members in any other similar clinic," according to the statement. The family will honor Tiller's memory "through private charitable activities" but would make no further comment on issues regarding the clinic, the June 9 statement said. On June 10, fellow late-term abortion doctor LeRoy Carhart told the Associated Press he would do procedures for "later second- and the medically indicated third-trimester patients very soon" in Kansas. Tiller's clinic was a major reason Kansas has been described as "the late-term abortion capital of America." The clinic advertised on its website it had "more experience in late abortion services over 24 weeks than anyone else currently practicing in the Western Hemisphere, Europe, and Australia."

DISCOUNT DADS

It was just a couple of weeks before Father's Day when I walked into a store and saw a huge sign hanging over a variety of possible gifts for dad. This array of special things ranged from golf tees to barbecue utensils to some neat "Number 1 Dad" mugs. The sign would have gotten anybody's attention, for it said, "Remember Dad — 60% Discount." I confess my initial thought was, "Good grief! That is cool. Come in and get dad a gift for 60% off. He ought to be worth every bit of 40%." My follow-up thought was more positive as I reasoned that poor dad was going to have to pay for his own gift anyway, so most dads would not mind getting the cheaper or less expensive gift.

Then my mind continued to process the whole venue and I thought to myself how the sign might have been talking about dad himself at 60% off. There is no question about it, that dads are devalued in our society. They never have measured up to moms and no doubt never will. I remember some years ago the telephone company said that the busiest day of the year for long distance phone calls was on Father's Day. I thought that was neat, but then as I read on I found out why Father's Day was so busy. As opposed to Mother's Day, when most people went to see mom, on Father's Day they just received a phone call.

The second biggest reason was that so many people called Pop collect. You got it! They called and let him pay. It seems it is kind of that way with dads. However, as I reflected on the 60% discount I realized that many of us may have contributed to devaluing our own position in life both with the kids and with their mama.

From a biblical standpoint and from God's view, dads are really important and a vital part of the home. In fact, you will recall in Exodus 20 when the Ten Commandments were given that the great commandment for the home says, "Honor thy father and thy mother." Then God goes on and adds a special promise for those who are obedient to the command: "That your days may be long upon the earth." The command was no less for the father than for the mother, for what is often overlooked is the fact that a lot of weight is given to the actions and the leadership of the dad in the home.

Many people look at the command and only think in terms of trying to get their kids to live up to a role of honor, respect, and obedience, but the other piece of

that tremendous responsibility is on the shoulders of the dad. In fact, it is also on the mom. Honor is not only something that kids are to give to their parents but parents are to provide an example that will engender respect and appreciation. It is not uncommon for a family to be filled with tension and some chaos, as parents are desirous and even demand that the children show respect and give honor to them. On the other hand, children are struggling with and at times finding it impossible to find actions, character, and leadership worthy of honor.

Years ago, I remember receiving a phone call from a dad in our church. He wanted to come and talk to me because he was so concerned about his son. He was a young teenage boy who had already gotten in with the wrong crowd. His dad was so upset because he had caught his son smoking marijuana. The dad came to my office and was still emotionally distraught and terribly concerned. He said, "I do not know where in the world he could have gotten into such a thing. Neither my wife or I have ever done any drugs." I said, "Well, that is good." With just the two of us standing there, I reached over and gently thumped his shirt pocket that held his package of cigarettes and said, "But if you are wondering where he got the idea, he may have learned right there." He did not appreciate my object lesson and protested that there was nothing illegal about those. I said, "I understand, but you wondered where he might have learned. He may not understand the difference."

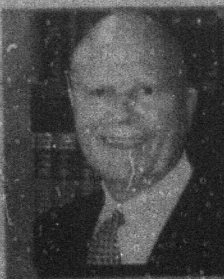
MS POSITIONS

MID-DELTA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION (Bolivar, Sunflower & Leflore counties) is seeking an Associational Missions Director. Send resumes to Pastor Wayne Kimbrough, AMD Search Committee, c/o Calvary Baptist Church, 4644 Billy Stone Rd., Greenwood MS 38930 or email wkimbroughcbc@yahoo.com by June 30, 2009.

FBC OF BUDE IS SEEKING A PART-TIME youth minister. Please send resume to FBC Bude, 235 Bude Baptist Rd. Bude Ms 39630. Or contact brad@fcbude.com. Phone is 601-364-2326. Deadline for submitting is June 30, 2009.

NORTHSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH, Vicksburg, Miss., is accepting resumes for a F/T Pastor, reply to pastor search committee, 28 Mingo Road, Vicksburg, MS 39183. Please send billing for the above ad to Northside Baptist Church, 4820 N. Washington St., Vicksburg, MS 39183.

FBC ABERDEEN IS SEEKING A PART-TIME leader for a blended style of worship. Contact Pastor Roy McKay 662-369-9366 or broxymckay@gmail.com by June 30th.



Directions

Jim Futral, executive director-treasurer
Mississippi Baptist Convention Board

At this special time of the year when dads are given their special day, let me just point out three important truths that I think will help us along the journey. Consider this: perfect dads often have imperfect kids. While I am fully aware of the fact that none of us are perfect dads, I do know of one perfect Father who provided a perfect world and put His children in a perfect garden. In spite of His love and provisions, they turned out bad. Adam and Eve sinned. Their sons sinned. One son killed the other one and God our Father was their Father. The way they acted broke God's heart. The way they continued to go away from right and from truth broke His heart and yet He never stopped loving His children and neither should we.

I know from personal experience that there are many dads and even more moms who spend some if not a great deal of time beating themselves up for things they should have done and did not do or things they should not have done and did. Well dad and mom, in all likelihood if you were perfect your kids would turn out imperfect.

Secondly, consider the wonderful truth that imperfect dads often have near perfect

children. It is amazing how some kids with little example and virtually no encouragement turn out to be extraordinary in so many ways. I know they are not perfect but they sure do contribute a lot and accomplish much that can be celebrated. There have been so many times when I have thanked God that in spite of me, my kids have abilities, gifts, aspirations, and character that clearly I had nothing to do with and an imperfect dad had a part in seeing the growth of outstanding kids.

That, of course, leads me to the third and the most important truth that every one of us needs to keep in mind. It is only by God's grace and His amazing love that any of us can be even close to what we need to be and our offspring turn out to be productive, loving, and great kids. The Scripture says, "But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound" (Rom. 5:20). Thank you Lord! For apart from His grace and amazing ability to forgive and transform, we would ruin everything. Well, we may but God's grace sets it right. No wonder Paul could say, "For by grace are you saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God" (Eph. 2:8).

This Father's Day celebrate with your kids, celebrate with your dad, and celebrate God's grace among us that makes life worth living. **Happy Father's Day!**

The author can be contacted at jfutral@mbcb.org.

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VZBW GTNCDDJ;
GTNCDDJ

Clue: J = N

Have fun with cryptography and exercise your Bible knowledge. A King James Version Bible verse has been encoded by letter substitution. The same letter is substituted throughout the puzzle. Solve by trial and error. Answer to last week's puzzle: Luke 12:40-49

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What I tell you in the darkness, speak in the light; and what you hear whispered in your ear, proclaim upon the

HOUSE TOPS

Matthew 10:27 NAS

June 18, 2009

HouseTops is a Baptist Record supplement produced by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board's Communication Services.

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Baptist Student Union Campus Highlights



Morris Baker, Director
University of Mississippi

On April 25, approximately 30 of our students and the BSU director ran a 10K race at the Double Decker Arts Festival in Oxford. We decided to run the race in memory of Greg Gomez, our summer missionary who was killed in Peru last July. Greg was an avid runner and had even competed in the Double Decker 10K before. One of our students wanted to get t-shirts made for the event, and she received help in getting the "Team Gomez/Finish the Race" t-shirts donated. Many individuals paid \$10 for a shirt (along with their race entry fee), and we were able to raise over \$500 for the Greg Gomez Memorial Missions Fund to help assist deserving students with their summer missions expenses! What's even more fascinating is that we had just given a \$500 missions scholarship from the Gomez Fund to a summer missionary just a few weeks earlier, and now God has enabled us to replace the full amount and then some!



Lisa Ray, Assistant Director
Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College

One of the ministry highlights for this month was a relationship that developed with one of the students. She and I have spent hours talking over the past month. She has been dealing with personal traumatic events in her life from the past and the present. She is going through an incredibly difficult time in her life, and ministering to her is often very difficult, but because of God's timing and perfect plan we had developed a solid bond that allowed her to have a Christian influence in her life during this month. She calls me regularly, usually daily, for spiritual counsel and for friendship. It is my impression that I am one of only a couple of people with whom she feels she can talk openly. It has been a joy to see that God used the BSU to give her some friends her age as well as a minister that she can trust, and at just the right time. I am confident that God is actively at work in her heart and it has been a blessing to be a part of what He is doing in her.



Tracy Moser, Director
Blue Mountain College

Our mission trip to the Chicago area was a highlight of the semester. We had the opportunity to work with one of our graduates, Ruben Raquel, and lead a youth rally and lead the Sunday morning worship service. Ruben is pastor of First Baptist Church, McHenry, IL. We also assisted a new campus ministry at Northern Illinois University. They are actually trying to start a church next to the campus. We led in a couple of worship times and did a lot of street evangelism. Many of our students were stretched by the opportunity. We met a number of students who said they were atheist and some who just did not have a heart for spiritual things. The campus ministry needs someone desperately to focus totally on that ministry. Right now the director of missions is heading up this ministry, as well as coordinating six counties of SBC churches. It was a great opportunity to help with work on another campus.

Baptist Student Union and Collegiate Ministry are ministries of the Cooperative Program.

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2009 STATE SENIOR ADULT RALLY

Thursday, August 27, 8 - 11:45 a.m.
Morrison Heights BC

- 8:00 Registration (Cost: \$1 at the door)
- 9:00 Rally with Al Staggs, Santa Fe, NM
(Humorous impersonator of 30 characters)
- Choir: Fairview Baptist Church, Columbus
- 10:00 Break
- 10:45 Break-outs:
 - Fun Time with Al: Al Staggs
 - Leadership: Changing Faces of Senior Adult Ministry
Joe Sherrer, Professor, NOBTS
 - Equipping Seniors to be a Disciple
Ivan Parke, Professor at MC
 - Seventh-Inning Stretch
Daniel Hall, MS Baptist Foundation Executive Director
- 11:45 Adjourn

For more information contact the Discipleship and Family Ministry Department
at 601-292-3373, 1-800-748-1651, ext. 373, or E-mail gshows@mbcb.org.

MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST YOUTH NIGHT



Stuart Hall

Guest Speaker



Jake Gullledge

Worship Leader

July 17, 2009

Mississippi Coliseum, 6:30 p.m.
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Friday, July 24

5:00pm Registration

6:00pm Worship Rally

Speakers:

Jim Futral and Mickey Daleymple

7:00pm Session 1

8:30pm Session 2

Saturday, July 25

8:00am Late Registration

8:30am Session 3

9:30am Session 4

10:30am Session 5

Please check the website for the most recent changes
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PROVIDING A REVIEW OF YEAR ONE (2008 CONTENT) AND A PRESENTATION OF YEAR TWO (NEW, ADDITIONAL CONTENT)



During the time that Dr. Jenkins served as the director of Leadership and Church Growth for the Alabama Baptist Convention State Board of Missions, he and his wife became aware of the significant need for ministers to have help in making their marriages better. In response to this need, they developed "The Miracle of Marriage" interactive materials.

Edwin Jenkins is the pastor of First Baptist Church in Athens, Ala. He and his wife, Joan, have three children. Edwin earned a D.Min. at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

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JUNE 19-JULY 9, 2009

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"A woman's heart should be so hidden in Christ that a man should have to seek Him first to find her."

Author Uncertain

Pray for: (1) fathers on FATHER'S DAY; (2) Baptist men on BAPTIST MEN'S DAY; (3) WMU, SBC Annual Meeting, Louisville, KY (WMU); (4) for a small team of two from FBC, Jackson, June 21-July 2 as they travel to Moldova.

Pray for 11 Mississippi Baptist college students as they travel to a country in SE Asia to work at an English Camp for the month of July. Pray that they will have an open door to share the Gospel with children attending this camp from all over Asia.

Pray for: (1) Citizenship and Religious Liberty (CAC Emphasis); (2) a team from Escatawpa BC, Jackson Association, traveling to New York, July 5-11, ministering through construction.

Pray for: (1) 1 Kids' Camp, Central Hills, 22nd-24th (SS); (2) GA/Acteens Camp; Garaywa 22nd-24th (WMU); (3) V Student Week, Blue Mountain College, 22nd-26th (SS); (4) a team from Liberty BC, New Albany, traveling to Honduras, 22nd-30th, to minister through construction.

Pray for: (1) Bible Drill Camp, Central Hills, Kosciusko, 29th-1st (D&FM); (2) LifeWay Worship Leadership Ridgecrest, NC (CM); (3) GA Camp, Garaywa, 29th-3rd (WMU).

Pray for: (1) GA/Acteens Camp, Garaywa, 6th-10th (WMU); (2) Summer Missions Camp for Boys, Central Hills, 6th-10th (MM).

Pray for: (1) SBC Convention, Louisville, KY, 23rd-24th; (2) HeartSong '09, The Music and Worship Arts Camp for 7th-12th graders, William Carey University, 23rd-27th (CM); (3) a team from North Star Church in Saitillo, June 23rd-July 7th, participating in church planting and evangelism in SE Asia.

The IMB is suffering from the economic situation in the US. The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering was \$30 million short of its goal this year. They reduced the number of field personnel, putting a hold on appointing many new missionaries. Please pray for increased offerings for IMB.

Pray for a team led by Woodlawn BC, Vicksburg, traveling to Honduras, July 7-14, to participate in medical and dental clinics.

Pray for II Kids' Camp, Central Hills, 25th-27th (SS)

Pray for: (1) a team from Calvary BC, Booneville, traveling to Peru, July 1-10, to minister through an orphanage and a school; (2) a team from New Hope BC, Leakesville, traveling to North Dakota to minister through VBS and construction.

Pray for: (1) Baptist Building AT HOME DAYS, 8th-10th; (2) a team from Walnut Grove BC, Walnut Grove, traveling to Romania, July 9-20 to serve in medical ministry and evangelism; (3) a team from Longview Heights BC, Olive Branch, traveling to Lithuania, July 9-16 to participate in a city-wide crusade.

Pray as a team from FBC, Brandon, travels to St. Vincent to participate in an International World Changers project, June 25-July 5.

Pray for a team from FBC, Clinton, as they travel to Ennis, Montana, July 2-10 to minister through VBS and construction.

Pray for: (1) Music Leadership Conference, 9th-11th (CM); (2) a team from FBC, Corinth, and Brandon BC traveling to Romania, July 9-21, to do medical missions, VBS and evangelism; (3) a team from FBC, Blount, traveling to rural Guatemala, July 9-18 to do medical clinics, distribution of food, clothing and Bibles.

Pray for: (1) open doors for evangelism, for a team traveling to Romania, June 19-28, which includes two members of Calvary BC, Tupelo, to participate in medical and dental missions; (2) a construction team from FBC, Laurel, June 20-28, as they minister in Alaska through World Changers.

Pray for: (1) a team from FBC, Philadelphia, traveling to a country in SE Asia, 26th-July 4th, as they seek to catch a vision for the work there and participate in prayerwalling; (2) a team from East Marietta BC, traveling to a country in SE Asia, June 26th-July 12th to be a part of evangelistic efforts.

Pray for: (1) a team from Woodland Hills BC, Water Valley, traveling July 3-14, to do development evangelism in a country in Central Asia; (2) a team from Broadmoor BC, Madison, traveling to England, July 4-14, to serve.

Pray for: (1) a team from FBC, Aberdeen, traveling to Cody, Wyoming, June 20-July 7, to serve in the areas of church and community ministry; (2) open doors for evangelism through VBS, for a team from Fairfield BC, Moselle, traveling to Umu, Peru, June 20-27.

Pray for a state Acteens team of 12 traveling to Montana, June 27th-July 5th, to do church and community ministry in Hungry Horse.

Pray for: (1) revival in the USA on this INDEPENDENCE DAY; (2) a team from Bowmar BC, Vicksburg, travel to East Asia to serve through English and a sports camp; (3) a team from Mt. Zion BC, Florence, traveling to Mexico, July 4-12, to do VBS and construction.

STATE
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Thursday, July 16, 1:30 p.m. -

Saturday, July 18, 3 p.m.

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HOUSE TOPS

JUST FOR THE RECORD



1. Slayden Church RAs



2. Baptist Nursing Fellowship



3. New Henleyfield Church children's choir

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1. The RAs and leaders of Slayden Church, Lamar, recently built and sold bird-houses to go toward the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering. Shown are the RAs presenting \$825 toward the goal of \$5500.

2. The Leflore/Carroll Chapter of the Baptist Nursing Fellowship meets monthly and plans for assisting in mission projects, community needs, and taking gifts to retired nurses. They are shown with retired nurse Mary B. Smith at the Golden Age nursing home. Shown, top, are Dawn McMinn, Betty Jackson, Eloise Brunson, Carolyn Campbell, and Jane Blackmon; bottom, Ann Gardner and Smith.

3. The children's choir of New Henleyfield Church, Pearl River County, performed the musical The Three Trees May 10. Shown are the participants.

4. First Church, Sumrall, recognizes its Bible drillers. Shown are the participants.

5. Trinity Church, Itawamba, retired the debt on their fellowship hall, gymnasium, and educational building with a note burning ceremony. Shown are Jimmie Wilson, pastor Don Baggett, and Doris Nail.

6. Zion Church, Pontotoc, held their Vacation Bible School on June 12-13. Pictured are the Kidaroos and Outback Guides of VBS.



4a. First Church, Sumrall, Bible drillers



4b. First Church, Sumrall, Bible drillers



5. Trinity Church note burning



6. Zion Church VBS

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COLLEGE NEWS

1. Secretary of State Delbert Hosemann will be the keynote speaker at Mississippi College's summer graduation, Aug. 1, 10 a.m., at the A.E. Wood Coliseum.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



8. Crestwood Church



9. Briar Hill Church



10. Faith Church

1. Mt. Olive Church, Okolona: June 24 - 27; Wed. - Sat., 6 - 9 p.m., with supper at 6; Sat., 10 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., with lunch at noon and a family picnic at 4 p.m.
2. First Church, Marion: July 6 - 10, 9 - 11:30 a.m.; Family night, Fri., 6:30 p.m.; ages 3 years - 6th grade.
3. Baxterville Church, Lumberton: June 21 - 26, 6 - 8:30 p.m.; ages 3 years - youth.
4. Crooked Creek Church, Silver Creek: June 22 - 26, 6 - 9 p.m.
5. Fredonia Church, New Albany enrolled 354 - 262 children and 92 leaders; nineteen children received Christ.
6. Sandy Hook Church, Sandy Hook: June 22 - 26, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.; 3 years - 12th grade.
7. Union Church, Union Church: June 24 - 27; Wed. - Fri., 5:30 - 8:30 p.m.; Sat., 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
8. Crestwood Church, Booneville, had a balloon launch at the end of their VBS. Shown are the participants.
9. Briar Hill Church, Florence, held VBS June 1 - 5. Their mission project was for the Baptist Children's Village, collecting \$2,121.41. Shown is Chrystelle Thames of the BCV and the children.
10. Faith Church, Overt, enrolled 66 students and 25 staff May 26 - 30; one boy saved. Shown is the six-year-old/kindergarten class.
11. Malmaison Church, Carroll County, held their VBS June 1 - 5; average attendance, 31; two professions of faith. Shown are the participants.
12. Murphy Creek Church, Winston County conducted VBS June 1 - 5; 70 enrolled, five professions of faith. Shown are the participants.
13. Calvary Church, Oak Grove, held their VBS June 1 - 5; \$1004 collected for Homes for Hope. Shown are the participants.



11. Malmaison Church



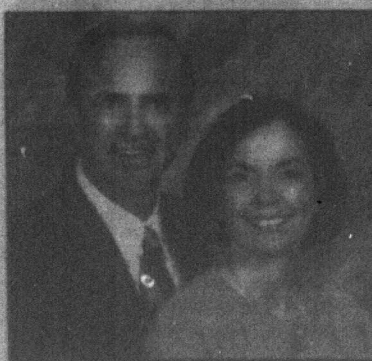
12. Murphy Creek Church



13. Calvary Church

STAFF CHANGES

1. First Church, Cleveland, has called Park Neff as pastor. He is a graduate of New Orleans Seminary and comes from Calvary Church, Greenville. He is shown with his wife, Sharon.



1. The Neffs

REVIVALS AND HOMECOMINGS

1. Leflore Church, Holcomb: Homecoming and new sanctuary dedication, June 21; Perry Irvin, speaker; Second Chance, Voices of Faith, and Larry Livingston, music.
2. Pilgrim's Rest Church, Ethel: Homecoming and revival, June 28 - July 1; Sun., 9:45 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon. - Wed., 7 p.m.; Larry Harvey, speaker.
3. County Line Church, Crystal Springs: Revival, June 18 - 20; 7 p.m. nightly; Billy Jack McDaniel, Jimmy Errington, and Terry Fant, speakers; Joseph Oster, music.
4. Eden Church, Yazoo City: Revival, July 12 - 15; Sun., 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. nightly; Michael Grenn, speaker; Johnny Busby, pastor.
5. Red Lick Church, Lorman: Homecoming, June 27, 4 p.m., followed by potluck supper; PraiseHeart, music.
6. First Church, Marion: Homecoming, June 28; worship, 10:30 a.m., followed by dinner on the grounds.
7. Franklin Road Church, Flora: Homecoming, June 28; Bible study, 9:45 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m.; Steve Purvis, speaker; David Westbrook, music; Donnie Parker, pastor.



Visit us online at www.mbc.org to learn more about Mississippi Baptist opportunities.

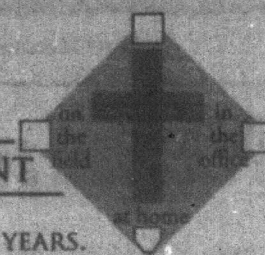
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BIBLE STUDIES FOR LIFE

Grounded in Truth

I John 2:18-27, 4:1-6

By Lori Clendinning

Have you ever encountered a scent of something that immediately took you to another place and time? Freshly sharpened pencils and a newly opened box of crayons take me back to elementary school days; roast beef, potatoes, and carrots recall a grandmother's inviting kitchen. A whiff of Jergens' almond and cherry scented hand lotion and I am immediately transported to my mother's side when supper dishes are done and she's lovingly rubbing the excess onto my youthful skin.

Like a deep, penetrating ointment, this is the picture that comes to mind when Scripture proclaims the anointing of God into our lives. The Greek word "chrío" (from which we receive the words "Christ" and "Christian") translates into

our English language as "anointed" but more specifically it means "to be rubbed off onto."

More than any other disciple, John the Apostle spent sumptuous amounts of time with Jesus. Like the other disciples and followers of Christ, John received a direct "rubbing" from God Himself. These men were profoundly changed by Him, which led to the entire world being challenged to follow Christ.

Thus it is that John passionately writes to all of us that we take care to observe the truth about Jesus and to avoid those who would lead us astray. We are commanded to test religious teachings against God's revealed Word and by seeking the Holy Spirit's help in understanding the truth of Scripture.

In our fallen world, contradictory messages abound from people who claim to speak for



Clendinning

God. In 2007, LifeWay Research concluded that, among those American adults who attend a Protestant church at least once a month:

• 61% agreed strongly that the Bible is the authoritative source of truth and wisdom for daily living; 39% did not.

• 54% agreed strongly that the Bible is the written Word of God and is totally accurate in its teachings; 46% did not.

• 21% said they study the Bible a few times a week or more, 79% did not.

• 16% said they read the Bible every day; 84% did not.

It should not surprise us that people deny that Jesus is the Christ. When people do not have Biblical knowledge, they are in danger of being deceived by false teachers who offer a "deeper" understanding or a "direct" revelation.

In God's Word and by His Spirit, Christians have everything necessary for knowing the truth. No "new" religious truth is needed. We can protect ourselves from falling prey to

false teaching by following three simple steps:

First, we should diligently study the Scripture. Get the Bible out, get it opened up, and get it into us.

Second, we should always begin our Bible study by asking for the Holy Spirit's help in understanding God's Word. The Holy Spirit has 100% accuracy in helping believers discern God's meaning in Scripture.

Third, we should not seek out "new" religious truth. We have all the truth we need in God's Word, and we have the Holy Spirit in our lives to help us understand and use it. The Holy Spirit does not engage in the revelation of new truth, but He enables us to understand and employ God's truth in our lives.

This isn't to say that theological education is unnecessary. Indeed, our minds are God-given and we honor Him by developing them as much as possible. Christians who challenge their minds are better equipped in the body of Christ.

We are called to be discerning, not gullible, when it comes to religious teaching, paying

particular attention to what teachers say about Jesus. Here are four areas to consider when encountering unfamiliar religious movements:

Authority: Is the Bible their main source for doctrine and practice or do they subscribe to another document or book?

Affirmation: Does their movement affirm or reject basic historic Christian teachings?

Attitude: How do their leaders view other Bible-believing, Christian groups? Do they insist on exclusivity to their movement?

Access: How do they explain access to God, that is, salvation? Is it by works, church membership, or obedience to the group's leaders, or is it through salvation by grace through Christ alone?

We are His, and through the Holy Spirit's anointing, we, too, as believers, take on the deep, luxurious touch of Christ, releasing a sweet fragrance that beckons the world to come closer. May God deeply rub into our souls this week!

Lori Clendinning is a member of First Baptist Church, Brandon.

EXPLORE THE BIBLE

Living by the Gospel

Galatians 3:26-29; 4:8-20

By Jim Burnett

The normal, healthy life of a Christian involves continuous transformation and progress. Daily God is at work in the believer's heart carving out character in His children, making them look and act more and more like His Son and our Savior Jesus Christ. A spiritual makeover was divinely ordered by God at the moment of your confession of Christ and it is underway this very moment. The Bible calls this process sanctification and it lasts a life time. Through our daily choices, actions, and attitudes we either accelerate sanctification in our lives or impede it.

Now I Belong to Jesus
(Galatians 3:26-29)

The good news about the sanctification process is that God never intended for us to go through it alone. Upon spiritual

rebirth we are born into the family of God, the Church. Thus every Christian is either your brother or sister in Christ.

You have spiritual siblings to encourage and challenge you along the way. Paul reminds us of this fact when he says, "You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus" (Galatians 3:26 NASB). In other writings of Paul he uses the analogy that believers constitute the body of Christ. Therefore, we not only belong to Jesus but we are eternally connected as blood brothers and sisters in Christ who will spend eternity in God's presence.

Understanding the lengths at which God went to make us His children, we now want to bring honor and glory to our heavenly Father. One way we honor God is by growing in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Practicing



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the spiritual disciplines of prayer, Bible study, meditation, tithing, fasting, church attendance, and witnessing is the pathway to maturity and sanctification. There are no short cuts or substitutes. Not even the best selling book in your local LifeWay

Book Store can take the place of the ancient spiritual disciplines that, when practiced from the heart, transform us into the image of Christ.

Since I Have Been Redeemed
(Galatians 4:8-14)

The challenge for every believer is to live in a fresh, vibrant relationship with Christ, experiencing new encounters and dimensions of the Lord regularly. A stale relationship with the Lord always leads to a sterile religion. Paul encouraged the Galatian Christians to step forward into maturity, joy, and freedom instead of backwards into the worthless elemental binding things of their past. The best thing we as Christians can do is

let go of anything that hinders our growth in Christ and grab hold of the things that stimulate growth.

Looking back over the last year of your spiritual journey, do you see growth spurts, progression, improvements, enlightenment, and maturity? Since you have been redeemed what are some of the ongoing changes that are occurring?

While it is true that Christ's death and resurrection provide salvation, forgiveness, eternal life, and power over sin, one must continuously appropriate these truths for them to have affect. Often we render God powerless in our lives because our doctrines become contaminated and diluted by lies, our behavior possesses a strong worldly flavor, and our religion becomes something we just do out of habit. Since you and I have been redeemed by the precious blood of Jesus Christ, let us live as the redeemed. Let us show the world the wonderful difference Jesus brings to a life.

More About Jesus
(Galatians 4:15-20)

Paul was quite disturbed that

the Galatian believers, who had just begun their spiritual journey in Christ, had already taken a detour in their faith via false doctrine. This reminds us of the importance of the two-fold charge Jesus gave in the Great Commission: baptizing the lost and discipling the saved. While bringing people to faith in Christ is absolutely essential, so is bringing them up in Christ. Christian maturity keeps us from becoming "...infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of men in their deceitful scheming" (Ephesians 4:14 NIV).

As long as you and I have air in our lungs, then we have the opportunity and challenge to continue letting Jesus be formed in us. Never stop growing and never stop learning. Stay hungry for Jesus, for those who hunger for Him will be fed. Those who seek Him will find Him, and in finding Him, will experience new dimensions of Him.

Burnett is pastor of Willow Pointe Church, Hattiesburg.

Guidelines for submitting news and photographs



The Baptist Record is pleased to publish news and photographs of special events that take place in cooperating churches of the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

News submitted for publication in The Baptist Record must be either (a) typewritten, (b) neatly printed on 8 1/2 by 11-inch paper, or (c) neatly printed on standardized forms provided by the newspaper. All articles must be received in writing; no articles will be accepted over the telephone.

News may be submitted electronically to the address below, and must be contained in the message segment of an e-mail form. Due to increasing virus threats, no text attachments will be accepted.

Photograph attachments are permissible.

Please make articles concise. Include the who, what, when, where details of the story, along with a contact person's address and telephone number.

Photographs may be color or black and white. Instant photos and digital printouts are not reproducible. Digital photos may be used if

submitted as a JPEG file via either (a) e-mail, (b) three-and-a-half inch floppy disk, or (c) CD. Photos must be clear, sharp, and well-lighted. Cell phone photographs and other low resolution items are generally not publishable. Photographs can not be returned. Please do not attach photos with tape or staples.

All news items are subject to editing, and all

photographs are subject to cropping. Photographs must depict people. No landscape, building, or object-only photographs will be printed. News items and/or photographs can be published one time only. News items and/or photographs depicting benefits and activities for secular or outside organizations will not be published. Deadline for submitting news is one week prior to requested publication date.

Articles that are not date-sensitive will be published on a space-available basis.

Submit news and photographs to The Baptist Record, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. FAX: (601) 292-3330. E-mail: baptistrecord@mbcb.org.



1. First Church, Byram, will have a patriotic service June 28, 7 p.m., honoring veterans, first responders, firefighters, police officers, and emergency medical responders.

2. Branch Church, Morton, held a baby dedication June 7. Shown are the participants.

3. First Church, Boyle, held a GA recognition June 7 with several girls receiving their awards. Shown, from left, are Rebecca Weaver, Tristain Steadman, Precious Summers, Elizabeth Sanders, Shelby Horton, Emily Daniel, and Hannah Cottam.

4. Stronghope Church, Monticello, held a baby dedication recently. Shown are Robin Risher and Brandon and Amanda Berch with Abbey.

5. Holly Springs Church, Foxworth, held a new nursery dedication on Mother's Day, May 10. Pastor Ron Jordan presented a plaque to the church family in memory of Harold Coley and in honor of Bill Davis. Shown are Karen, Alycee, and Libra Coley, Jordan, Hollie Davis, and Davis.

6. Mt. Moriah Church, Bogue Chitto, held a deacon ordination May 31. Shown are Greg and Regina McCaffrey; James "Jamie" and Susie Rippy; Robbie and Kim Thibodeaux; and pastor Danny Moss.

7. Lakeside Church, Hattiesburg, presented George (Sam) B. Boyte with the Purple Heart he earned in the Viet Nam War Apr. 26. Records had been lost and a letter was found confirming him as recipient of the medal. Shown are Boyte, pastor Roy Moody, and Nancy Boyte.

8. Concord Church, Booneville, celebrated homecoming and a Mother's Day program May 10. Shown are the children presenting the program.

9. Osyka Church, Osyka honored their senior adults May 3 with activities during the worship service and a luncheon. Shown are participants Doug Elarton, Becky Elarton, Margie Orsi, and Tommy Orsi.



2. Branch Church baby dedication



3. First Church, Boyle, GA recognition



4. Stronghope Church baby dedication



5. Holly Springs church nursery dedication



6. Mt. Moriah church deacon ordination



7. Boyte recognition



8. Concord Church Mother's Day program



9. Osyka Church senior adult recognition